

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599
Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423



22850

Tel.: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
GJM:SNS\la
I:\atty\SNS\216714us-pr.wpd

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

--3. (Amended) The ceramic heater according to claim 1 [or 2],

wherein said resistance heating element composed of a different circuit has a concentric circles-like or a spiral shape.

4. (Amended) The ceramic heater according to [any of claim 1 to 3] claim 1,

wherein said resistance heating element composed of a different circuit is a combination of: a resistance heating element having a concentric circles-like or a spiral shape; and resistance heating elements being divided in the circumferential direction.

7. (Amended) The ceramic heater according to [any of claims 1 to 6] claim 1,

wherein said ceramic heater is used at a temperature of 100 to 800 °C.

8. (Amended) A ceramic heater according to [any of claims 1 to 7] claim 1,

wherein said ceramic heater is equipped with:

a temperature-measuring element for measuring the temperature of said ceramic substrate;

a control unit for supplying electric power to said resistance heating element composed of a plurality of circuits;

a memory unit for memorizing the data of a temperature measured by said temperature-measuring element; and

an operation unit for calculating electric power required for said resistance heating element from said temperature data measured by said temperature-measuring element, said ceramic heater being constituted such that respectively different electric powers are supplied to the plurality of circuits of said resistance heating element.

9. (Amended) The ceramic heater according to [any of claims 1 to 8] claim 1, wherein said ceramic substrate comprises a nitride ceramic or a carbide ceramic.--
- Claims 10-15 (New).

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the Abstract on page 66 as follows:

--ABSTRACT

[An object of the present invention is to provide a] A ceramic heater making it possible to make the temperature of a face for heating a silicon wafer even and prevent damage of the silicon wafer. The ceramic heater [of the present invention is a ceramic heater comprising] includes resistance heating elements formed on a surface of a ceramic substrate in a disc form or inside the ceramic substrate[, wherein the]. The resistance heating elements are composed of two or more circuits [being] divided in the circumferential direction and are arranged in the outermost periphery of the ceramic substrate. [and further the] Further, a resistance heating element composed of a different circuit is formed in the inner portion of the resistance heating elements being arranged in the peripheral portion.--